

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Rubber Factory, P'yongyang Area

1. In mid-August 1952 there was a North Korean army rubber factory south of P'yongyang near Tosong-dong (N 38-59, E 125-43) (YD-3518) at YD-365177. This factory was producing army shoes, tires and tubes, and raincoats. The raw materials were purchased in Communist China. Two truckloads of finished products were shipped from the factory each week. The plant, which employed 180 people, was closed from 4 to 5 days each month because of a shortage of raw materials.

National P'yongyang Tannery

2. In late August 1952 the National P'yongyang Tannery was in the former Pukuk Paper Mill building at YD-358223. The tannery was in two buildings. One of these was a two-story red brick building 15 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 7 meters high. The other had one story and was 30 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 7 meters high.
3. Thirty laborers and six clerical workers were employed at the tannery. Twenty-

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five of the workers were members of the North Korean Labor Party. The director's salary was 1,500 won a month. Clerical workers earned 1,100 won, technicians¹ 1,200, and laborers 900. An average of 100 cow hides and 1,000 pig hides were tanned here per month. The finished hides were sent to various army factories. Raw materials, such as soda ash, tannin, dye, and lime were purchased for the tannery under the direction of the Special Industry Instruction Department of the North Korean Cabinet.

Cigarette Factory, Inhung-ni, P'yongyang

4. On 2 September 1952, there was a cigarette factory in dugouts in Inhung-ni, P'yongyang at YD-374247, about 300 meters north of the Sop'yongyang railroad station (N 39-02, E 125-45) (YD-384244). North Korean tobacco was used at this factory, and the cigarette paper was being imported from the USSR. The cigarettes produced were the following brands: Haeyon; Chungsan; Pugang; Himang; and Subok. There were 35 clerks, 50 technicians, and 260 laborers employed there, who worked 10 hours daily and were paid an average wage of 1,000 won per month. Most of the cigarettes produced were allocated to the North Korean army, but a small amount was sent to the consumers guild.

National Medicine Factory, P'yongyang

5. In early September 1952 there was a government-run medicine factory at the foot of a hill in Taet'aryong-ni (N 39-02, E 125-43) (YD-3524), P'yongyang, at YD-346236.² This factory was established in April 1952 by the Medicine Control Division of the North Korean Ministry of Health for the purpose of supplying medicines for the North Korean army and for civilian use. There were six semi-underground buildings with board walls and concrete roofs. It was rumored that the factory was to be moved to the Taebu Mountain (N 38-59, E 125-35) (YD-2418) area.
6. In early September the director of the factory was CH'OE Chong-fun (1508/1350/0534), aged 28. There were approximately 55 laborers, 5 technicians, and 20 office workers, who worked from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Products manufactured included analgesics, injectable glucose, injectable calcium, vaccines (including small-pox), bicarbonate of soda, mercurochrome, tincture of iodine, eye lotion, ointments, cough medicines, digestive medicines, and antipyretics. Every 5 days a truckload of manufactured medicines was shipped to the Medicine Control Division at an undetermined location for distribution to the North Korean army and to hospitals. Some of the raw chemicals used were purchased locally and some from the USSR or Hungary.

Tangmok-tong Lumber Mill

7. On 6 October 1952 there was a lumber mill at Tangmok-tong (N 40-17, E 124-51) (XN-5760) which was producing railroad ties, bridge timbers and paper pulp. There were 200 men and 75 women workers who produced 30,000 ties and bridge timbers and 5 tons of pulp daily.³ The workers were paid 150 won per day plus 5 hop (1.5 pint) of grain.

Munp'yong Iron Works

8. In late July 1952 the Munp'yong (N 39-14, E 127-21) (OU-5844) Iron Works was at OU-584461. This plant was manufacturing locks for air raid shelters (sic), nails, and farm tools. In addition, repair work was done on machines. The plant was using steel which had been stockpiled there before the war and which was to have been used in the construction of the Munp'yong Zinc Works. By the end of July 1952, goods valued at 8,000,000 won had been manufactured there.

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9. There were approximately 150 workers at the iron works. The executive staff was as follows:

CH'OE Chung-son, manager

KIM Chae-chun, deputy manager

SONG T'ae-chun, labor bureau director

AN Ch'ae-chun, labor supply bureau director

CH'OE Pong-chun, production bureau director

YI Ku-un, finance bureau director

KIM Pyong-chun, planning bureau director

PAK Hung-yong, personnel bureau director

PAK Pong-hyop, warehouse bureau director

KIM Nak-sop, Labor Party chairman

National Match Factory, Pukch'ong

10. In early September 1952 the National Pukch'ong (N 40-14, E 128-18) (DV-4053) Match Factory was at the foot of Yongdok Mountain at DV-405545 in an uncamouflaged building 22 meters long, 3 meters wide, and 4 meters high. The building had wooden walls and a zinc roof. There were 30 employees.

Comments

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1. It is not clear whether the technicians were included in the 36 workers mentioned.
2. [redacted] reported a Red Cross Pharmaceutical factory at YD-3822, P'yongyang [redacted] 25X1A
3. The monthly, rather than the daily production rate was probably intended.

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